



Tim Fischer

FELLOWSHIP

Program Guidelines

Empowering changemakers
in rural and regional Australia





Program Guidelines

1. Eligibility criteria

- 1.1. Applicants must be aged 18 years or older at the time of application.
- 1.2. The Fellowship is open to individuals from all fields and career stages.
- 1.3. Preference will be given to applicants from rural or regional Australia, though this is not mandatory.
- 1.4. Applicants must demonstrate a passion for rural and regional development and align with the objectives of the Country Education Foundation (CEF).
- 1.5. Applicants must agree to represent CEF as ambassadors, including attending events and sharing insights from the Fellowship experience.
- 1.6. Applicants must be a resident of Australia and must not be a direct family member of any person involved as a Fellowship Judge or CEF Board Member.

2. Application process

- 2.1. All applications must be submitted online via the official CEF website.
- 2.2. Submissions must include all required materials:
 - A short video (maximum 2 minutes).
 - A written bio (maximum 350 words).
 - Detailed project proposal including a budget outlining how the funds will be spent. (maximum 350 words).
 - Personal and professional references.
 - Optional: Up to three supporting documents (e.g., CV/resume, project portfolio).
- 2.3. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 PM AEST on the advertised deadline date (17 August 2025). Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- 2.4. Applicants must answer all the questions on the application form.
- 2.5. Applicants must confirm that all information provided is true, accurate, and their own work.

3. Fellowship details

- 3.1. One recipients will be selected each year.
- 3.2. The recipient will receive funding of up to \$50,000 to be used for education, professional development, or research.
- 3.3. The funding may be applied towards professional development, research activities, travel related to the Fellowship purpose, accommodation, or other agreed-upon expenses. The funds cannot be utilised to subsidise a wage.
- 3.4. Funds will be accessed via a reimbursement on receipt or direct payment of an invoice. Upon the completion of the project any unspent funds will be forfeited.
- 3.5. The Fellowship package must commence within six months and completed within 18 months of the announcement date, unless an extension is granted by CEF.
- 3.6. The Fellowship package is non-transferable either to another person or to a cash equivalent.
- 3.7. CEF reserves the right to change components of the prize package at its discretion. However, any changes will be replaced with another prize of equal or greater value.
- 3.8. Multiple Applications: An applicant can only lodge one application per year, if you are unsuccessful, we encourage you to review your submission and consider applying again in a future round.



4. Recipient obligations

- 4.1. Recipients are required to:
 - Provide an update of their progress at a quarterly meeting.
 - Submit a report documenting their learnings and outcomes, acknowledging that CEF reserves the right to use the report, presentations, and outcomes for its purposes.
 - Present their insights at the CEF Awards event and other public forums as requested.
 - Acknowledge the Country Education Foundation in any other report or publication arising from this funding.
 - Advocate for rural and regional education.
- 4.2. Recipients must agree to participate in CEF promotional activities, including interviews, photographs, and media coverage related to the TFF.
- 4.3. Fellowship recipients are expected to exercise good judgment when associating their social media profiles with the TFF and the CEF. All comments, posts, and expressions shared on social media s should be truthful, respectful, and considerate of others.

5. Selection process

- 5.1. Applications will be assessed by an independent judging panel based on the following criteria:
 - Alignment with the Fellowship's mission and objectives.
 - Clarity and feasibility of the project proposal.
 - Potential impact on rural and regional communities.
- 5.2. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to participate in an interview with the judging panel.
- 5.3. Decisions made by the judging panel are final and cannot be appealed.

6. Privacy and data use

- 6.1. Personal information provided by applicants will be used solely for the purpose of administering the Fellowship.
- 6.2. CEF will not disclose personal details to third parties without the applicant's consent, except as required by law.

7. Disqualification and withdrawal

- 7.1. CEF reserves the right to disqualify any applicant who provides false or misleading information.
- 7.2. Recipients who fail to meet their obligations may forfeit the Fellowship, including remaining funds.

8. Amendments and Termination

- 8.1. CEF reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions at any time. Applicants will be notified of significant changes.
- 8.2. CEF may suspend or terminate the Fellowship program at its discretion, with no liability to applicants or recipients.

9. Acceptance of Terms

- 9.1. By applying, the applicant acknowledges they have read, understood,